

Introduced by Senator Speier

February 22, 2005

An act to add Section 51210.5 to, and to add Article 7.6 (commencing with Section 17074.60) to Chapter 12.5 of Part 10 of, the Education Code, relating to pupil health.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 688, as introduced, Speier. The Skin Cancer Prevention Act for California Schools.

(1) Existing law provides the adopted course of study for kindergarten and grades 1 to 12, inclusive, and requires a school district to offer instruction on a variety of subjects.

This bill would create a state-mandated local program as it would require a school district to provide instruction to pupils in kindergarten and grades 1 to 12, inclusive, that relates to skin cancer prevention.

(2) Existing law, the Leroy F. Greene School Facilities Act of 1998, requires the State Allocation Board to allocate to applicant school districts, prescribed per-unhoused-pupil state funding for construction and modernization of school facilities, including hardship funding, and supplemental funding for site development and acquisition.

This bill would require new schools constructed under these provisions to include a shade structure positioned over playground structures and outdoor eating areas.

(3) The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that, if the Commission on State Mandates determines that the bill contains costs mandated by the state,

reimbursement for those costs shall be made pursuant to these statutory provisions.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: yes.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. This bill shall be known, and may be cited, as
- 2 the Skin Cancer Prevention Act for California Schools.
- 3 SEC. 2. The Legislature finds and declares as follows:
- 4 (a) The chief cause of skin cancer is exposure to ultraviolet
- 5 rays from natural sunlight and artificial sources.
- 6 (b) According to the American Cancer Society, skin cancer is
- 7 the most common cancer in the United States. One in five
- 8 Americans will develop skin cancer in their lifetime and one
- 9 American every hour dies from the disease.
- 10 (c) The lifetime risk of getting skin cancer is linked to sun
- 11 exposure and sunburn during childhood and adolescence.
- 12 (d) The United States Department of Health and Human
- 13 Services in its Ninth Report on Carcinogens, classified solar
- 14 radiation as a “known human carcinogen” or cancer-causing
- 15 agent.
- 16 (e) The purpose of the Healthy People 2010 Objective is to
- 17 increase the proportion of persons, particularly adolescents, who
- 18 use at least one of the protective measures that may reduce the
- 19 risk of skin cancer, for example, reducing midday sun exposure,
- 20 wearing hats and longer clothing, and using sunscreen.
- 21 (f) Schools have the potential to positively influence pupil
- 22 behavior regarding skin cancer prevention.
- 23 (g) The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the World
- 24 Health Organization, the National Association of School Boards
- 25 of Education, the United States Environmental Protection
- 26 Agency, and the California Department of Health Services Skin
- 27 Cancer Prevention Program have published guidelines or
- 28 instructional materials regarding sun safety and skin cancer
- 29 prevention for schools.
- 30 (h) It is, therefore, the intent of the Legislature, in recognizing
- 31 the generally understood link between sun exposure and
- 32 ever-increasing skin cancer rates, to require schools to adopt and
- 33 implement skin cancer prevention instruction within existing

1 course curriculum, including in-class and out-of-class activities,
2 as well as provide adequate onsite shade cover.

3 (i) It is further recognized that the incidence of skin cancer and
4 melanoma can be greatly reduced with coordinated attention and
5 intervention from government, physicians, schools, medical
6 researchers, and individuals.

7 SEC. 3. Section 51210.5 is added to the Education Code, to
8 read:

9 51210.5. The governing board of a school district shall
10 provide instruction to pupils in kindergarten and grades 1 to 12,
11 inclusive, that relates to skin cancer prevention that includes, but
12 is not limited to, both of the following:

13 (a) The core facts and statistics about skin cancer, including,
14 but not limited to, the negative impact of human exposure to
15 ultraviolet radiation.

16 (b) A comprehensive set of strategies and behaviors to reduce
17 individual risk for skin cancer.

18 SEC. 4. Article 7.6 (commencing with Section 17074.60) is
19 added to Chapter 12.5 of Part 10 of the Education Code, to read:

20
21 Article 7.6. Shade Structures
22

23 17074.60. All new construction projects submitted to the
24 Division of the State Architect pursuant to this chapter,
25 including, but not limited to, hardship applications, that require
26 the approval of the Department of General Services shall include
27 a shade structure positioned over playground structures and
28 outdoor eating areas.

29 SEC. 5. If the Commission on State Mandates determines that
30 this act contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement to
31 local agencies and school districts for those costs shall be made
32 pursuant to Part 7 (commencing with Section 17500) of Division
33 4 of Title 2 of the Government Code.